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1.962  
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BOOK NUMBER

1.962  
A2H837

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# <sup>3</sup> *How Man Starts New Forests*



Where fire or unwise timber cutting or grazing animals prevent the forest from growing back by itself, man must establish it anew. Where poor land has been cleared for farming and then given up, new forests must be planted, sometimes by Mother Nature but more often by Man, to make it grow good trees again.

More than 60 million acres of forest land need planting in the United States, 5 million in New York State alone.

The forester's first step in tree planting is to gather seed from the kind of trees to be planted in the new forest. Such seed must usually



be collected in the fall six months or so before planting time and carefully dried and stored. Refrigeration may be necessary for certain kinds of seeds.

The seed is planted in seed beds in forest tree nurseries. There the seedlings are carefully watered and constantly protected from diseases and insects. After from one to four years in the nursery, the young trees are carefully dug, packed to keep the roots always moist during shipment, and sent to the area where the planting is to be done.

At the planting site, men usually plant the trees about six feet apart. The tools they use may be mattocks, grub hoes, planting bars or tree planting machines. While planting the trees, they carry them in buckets or boxes designed to keep the roots moist. The holes are dug deep enough so that the roots spread out downward without being curled back or bunched into a ball. The soil is tamped firmly about the roots to prevent air pockets which dry out the roots and kill the trees. Where a crop of Christmas trees is to be raised, the trees are sometimes planted much closer together.

After planting, the trees must be protected from fire, grazing animals, insects, and diseases, and sometimes from shrubs and worthless kinds of trees which spring up naturally and choke them out. This competing brush must be removed to give them growing space. If they are given this care, in a surprisingly few years the planted land will once again support a crop -- trees. The water holding capacity of the soil will be increased, there will be food and shelter for wildlife, and the threat of soil erosion will have been reduced.

Tree planting by Man is often expensive, but it is necessary where the forest has been abused. Wise use of our present forests will keep them always productive and make much tree planting unnecessary.

#### Activities:

Gather different kinds of tree seeds.

Describe how nature distributes and plants seeds by squirrels, winds, birds, etc.

Plant some tree seeds in the spring in a garden or in soil flats.

Plant trees on a school forest or other land with trees obtained through the state forester.

Report on a tree planting interview with a forester.

In the United States, most trees for planting idle forest acres are raised in state tree nurseries. Ask your state forester about the nurseries in your State. (List is attached.)

|                |                              |                                 |                          |
|----------------|------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Alabama        | State Forester               | 5 N. Bainbridge St.             | Montgomery 4, Ala.       |
| Arizona        | None                         |                                 |                          |
| Arkansas       | Forest Director              | P. O. Box 1940                  | Little Rock, Ark.        |
| California     | State Forester               | State Office Bldg. #1           | Sacramento 14, Calif.    |
| Colorado       | Ext. Forester                | Col. A.&M. College              | Fort Collins, Col.       |
| Connecticut    | State Forester               | 165 Capitol Ave.                | Hartford 15, Conn.       |
| Delaware       | State Forester               | State House                     | Dover, Delaware          |
| Florida        | State Forester               | P. O. Box 1200                  | Tallahassee, Fla.        |
| Georgia        | Forest Director              | State Capitol                   | Atlanta 3, Ga.           |
| Hawaii         | Terr. Forester               | P. O. Box 5425                  |                          |
|                |                              | Pawaa Substation                | Honolulu, Hawaii         |
| Idaho          | Dean of Forestry             | University of Idaho             | Moscow, Idaho            |
| Illinois       | State Forester               | 301 $\frac{1}{2}$ E. Monroe St. | Springfield, Ill.        |
| Indiana        | State Forester               | 311-325 W. Washington St.       | Indianapolis 9, Ind.     |
| Iowa           | Supt. of Forests             | 7th & Court Sts.                | Des Moines 9, Iowa       |
| Kansas         | Ext. Forester                | State College                   | Manhattan, Kansas        |
| Kentucky       | Forester Director            | Division of Forestry            | Frankfort, Ky.           |
| Louisiana      | State Forester               | P. O. Box 1269                  | Baton Rouge, 1, La.      |
| Maine          | State Forester               | Maine Forest Service            | Augusta, Maine           |
| Maryland       | Forest Director              | State Office Bldg.              | Annapolis, Md.           |
| Massachusetts  | Forest Director              | 15 Ashburton Place              | Boston 8, Mass.          |
| Michigan       | Dir. Div. of<br>Conservation | Michigan State College          | East Lansing, Mich.      |
| Minnesota      | Forest Director              | State Office Bldg.              | St. Paul 1, Minn.        |
| Mississippi    | State Forester               | P. O. Box 649                   | Jackson 5, Mississippi   |
| Missouri       | State Forester               |                                 | Jefferson City, Mo.      |
| Montana        | Dean of Forestry             | Mont. State University          | Missoula, Mont.          |
| Nebraska       | Ext. Forester                | University of Nebraska          | Lincoln 1, Neb.          |
| Nevada         | Ext. Forester                | State Capitol                   | Carson City, Nev.        |
|                |                              |                                 | (no formal agree.)       |
| New Hampshire  | State Forester               | State Office Bldg.              | Concord, N. H.           |
| New Jersey     | State Forester               | State House Annex               | Trenton 7, N. J.         |
| New Mexico     | None                         |                                 |                          |
| New York       | Forest Director              | Lands & Forests, Div.           | Albany 7, N. Y.          |
| North Carolina | State Forester               | P. O. Box 2719                  | Raleigh, N. C.           |
| North Dakota   | State Forester               |                                 | Bottineau, N. D.         |
| Ohio           | Chief, Forestry              | 1500 Dublin Road                | Columbus, Ohio           |
| Oklahoma       | Forest Director              | 536 State Capitol               | Oklahoma City 5, Okla.   |
| Oregon         | State Forester               |                                 | Salem, Oregon            |
| Pennsylvania   | Chief, Forests               | Bureau of Forests               | Harrisburg, Penn.        |
| Rhode Island   | Chief Forester               | 18 State House                  | Providence 2, R. I.      |
| South Carolina | State Forester               | 506 Calhoun Office Bldg.        | Columbia 1, S. C.        |
| South Dakota   | State Forester               |                                 | Pierre, S. D.            |
| Tennessee      | State Forester               | 309 New State Office Bldg.      | Nashville 3, Tenn.       |
| Texas          | Forest Director              | A. & M. College                 | College Station 5, Texas |
| Utah           | Forestry Prof.               | Utah State Ag. College          | Logan, Utah              |
| Vermont        | State Forester               |                                 | Montpelier, Vt.          |
| Virginia       | State Forester               | University Station              | Charlottesville, Va.     |
| Washington     | Forestry Head                | State College of Wash.          | Pullman, Wash.           |
| West Virginia  | State Forester               |                                 | Charleston, 5, W. Va.    |
| Wisconsin      | Conservation Dir.            |                                 | Madison 2, Wis.          |
| Wyoming        | Asst. Director               | Experiment Station              | Laramie, Wyoming         |



# *Conservation Pledge*

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I GIVE MY  
PLEDGE AS AN AMERICAN  
TO SAVE AND FAITHFULLY TO  
DEFEND FROM WASTE THE  
NATURAL RESOURCES OF  
MY COUNTRY — ITS SOIL  
AND MINERALS, ITS  
FORESTS, WATERS,  
AND WILDLIFE

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
U.S. FOREST SERVICE

Washington, D. C.

January 1952





